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Agenda item 80

PROTECTION OF GLOBAL CLIMATE FOR PRESENT AND FUTURE GENERATIONS OF MANKIND

Malta and Vanuatu: draft resolution

Protection of global climate for present and future generations of mankind

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 43/53 of 6 December 1988 and 44/207 of 22 December 1989, in which it recognized climate change as a common concern of mankind,

Recalling also its resolutions 45/212 of 21 December 1990, by which it established an Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee to prepare an effective framework convention on climate change, and any related legal instruments as might be agreed upon, for signature during the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, and 46/169 of 19 December 1991, by which it provided for the continuation of work on climate change until the end of 1992,

Taking note with appreciation of the reports of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee for a Framework Convention on Climate Change on its work thus far in 1992 1/ and the report prepared by the Chairman of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee for a Framework Convention on Climate Change, on behalf of the Committee, for submission to the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, 2/

1/ A/AC.237/18 (Part I) and A/AC.237/18 (Part II) and Add.1.

2/ A/CONF.151/8.

Noting resolution 15 (EC-XLIV), adopted by the Executive Council of the World Meteorological Organization at its forty-fourth session,

Noting that, in accordance with paragraph 4 of its resolution 46/169 and pursuant to resolution INC/1992/1 adopted by the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee on 9 May 1992, arrangements are being made for the sixth session of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee to be held as soon as practicable, preferably before the end of 1992,

Noting also that article 21 of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change provides for the secretariat established by the General Assembly in resolution 45/212 to be the interim secretariat of the Convention until the completion of the first session of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention,

Noting with appreciation the support provided for the operation of the secretariat during 1992 by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Environment Programme and the World Meteorological Organization, as well as by bilateral contributors,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General, 3/ with particular reference to the possible requirements for intergovernmental and secretariat work on the implementation of the Convention in the period up to and including the first session of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention,

1. Welcomes the adoption, on 9 May 1992, of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change by the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee for a Framework Convention on Climate Change and its signing by a large number of States;

2. Considers the Convention one of the achievements of the international community working through the United Nations and a first step in a cooperative response to the common concern for the adverse effects of climate change;

3. Calls upon States that have not done so to sign the Convention and to ratify, accept, approve or accede to it, so that it may enter into force;

4. Invites signatories of the Convention to communicate to the head of the interim secretariat of the Convention, as soon as feasible, information regarding measures consistent with the provisions of the Convention, pending its entry into force;

3/ A/47/466.

5. Urges States to support and contribute to the activities at the national, regional and international levels related to the basic scientific and technical needs specified in the Convention, including those activities carried out under the World Climate Programme and the Global Climate Observing System;

6. Decides that the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee shall continue to function in order to prepare for the first session of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention, as specified in the Convention, and, in that context, to contribute to the effective operation of the interim arrangements set out in article 21 of the Convention;

7. Invites the Committee, in this regard, to draw up an adequate plan of preparatory work at its sixth session and to implement it expeditiously thereafter, and requests the Secretary-General to make arrangements for the Committee to hold sessions as needed, if possible avoiding scheduling conflicts with the General Assembly;

8. Requests the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee to promote a coherent and coordinated programme of activities by competent bodies aimed at supporting the entry into force and effective implementation of the Convention and strengthening the capacities of developing and other countries to prepare for their participation in the Convention;

9. Calls upon the organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system involved in work relating to climate change, including the interim secretariat of the Convention, to initiate and strengthen such activities, where possible in collaboration with each other, and invites them to make information on these activities and on any coordination arrangements regularly available to the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee, through its secretariat;

10. Invites the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee to convey information on its work to the General Assembly through the Economic and Social Council and the Commission on Sustainable Development, as appropriate, in particular in the context of chapter 9 of Agenda 21;

11. Requests the Secretary-General, to strengthen the secretariat established by the General Assembly in resolution 45/212 so that it may function as the interim secretariat of the Convention until the completion of the first session of the Conference of the Parties and, in that capacity, provide adequate substantive support to the evolving work of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee, and further requests him to make provisions for this purpose within the current and forthcoming programme budgets and up to the first session of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention;

12. Requests United Nations programmes and agencies, particularly the United Nations Environment Programme and the World Meteorological Organization, to contribute staff to assist the head of the interim secretariat;

13. Requests bilateral sources to continue to assist the interim secretariat as hitherto;

14. Requests the head of the interim secretariat to maximize opportunities for collaborative work with other secretariat entities, including the secretariat of the Commission on Sustainable Development;

15. Requests the Secretary-General to maintain the special voluntary fund established under paragraph 10 of General Assembly resolution 45/212 to support the participation of developing countries, in particular the least developed among them, as well as small island developing countries, in the work of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee and in the first session of the Conference of the parties to the Convention;

16. Also requests the Secretary-General to maintain the trust fund established under paragraph 20 of General Assembly resolution 45/212 to contribute to the costs of the interim secretariat of the Convention;

17. Takes note with appreciation of the contributions made to these extrabudgetary funds and appeals to present and new contributors to make adequate and timely contributions to both funds;

18. Invites the Chairman of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee for a Framework Convention on Climate Change to submit a final report to the General Assembly on behalf of the Committee, on the completion of the Committee's work, following the conclusion of the first session of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention;

19. Requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its forty-ninth session on the implementation of the present resolution;

20. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-ninth session an item entitled "Protection of global climate for present and future generations".